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Satisfied that this must be a recently introduced grass I sent a specimen to Dr. Geo. Thurber who considers it an important find. It is *Cynosurus cristatus*, Linn., the "crested dog tail grass," rather common in Europe, but heretofore not reported in the U. S.

Botanists who visit Chautauqua this year are requested to be on the lookout for this grass in order to ascertain whether it can hold its own and can be considered as thoroughly established.—G. GUTTENBERG.

PODOPHYLLUM PELTATUM.—I believe the May-apple is exclusively a native of North America, but it is found in great profusion from the northern to the southern boundaries of the United States. Now it is precisely because this plant is so very common that nothing is said of its beauty or virtues. Why it has been given the name of May-apple would be difficult to conjecture, as it rarely blooms before June, but occasionally I have found it blooming about the end of May. It delights in moist, rich soil, and is always most luxuriant in damp, shady woods. Its fruit is never ripe until the latter part of September, and indeed the plant is propagated so abundantly by the creeping of its roots, that Dr. Barton says only a small proportion of its flowers produce fruit. What the cause of it is I do not pretend to know, but the fact remains the same, that while I am well acquainted with the flowers of this plant, I have never seen the fruit more than once or twice. In May 1879, I noticed large patches of its light green leaves above, and pale beneath, supported on yellowish green stems about a foot high. Later on when the plants are in flower, the drooping habit of these blossoms found in the fork that the junction of the petioles makes, gives to the whole bed an elegant appearance. The number of its white petals varies from six to nine, and they are thickly laced with vein. The pistil is of a yellowish color, and crowned by a stigma much darker. The stamens vary from thirteen to twenty, and are yellow. The fruit that I have seen was small and about the color of a half ripe lemon, but Dr. Barton says, 'the size varies according to the different situations the plant may have been grown in, and when mature is lemon yellow slightly maculated with round brownish dots.'

The proper time for collecting the roots for medicinal purposes is after the leaves have fallen. Porcher says in his "Resources of the Southern Fields and Forests," that the pulp of the fruit when squeezed into a wine glass and with the addition of sugar and old Madeira, is said to be equal as a drink to the luscious golden granadilla of the tropics. Many people like the taste of the fruit when eaten, without other flavor than its own.—E. HUNTER, *Essex Co., Va.*

RECENT PERIODICALS.—*The American Naturalist* for January is strong in Botany. Mr. William Trelease has been studying the Fertilization of *Calamintha Nepeta* and finds it cross-fertilized by many insects, though capable of close fertilization in one or two unlikely